

Energy Assistance funding. This additional funding will provide much needed help for families struggling with rising heating costs. This new money, combined with emer-

gency funds released in January, will help keep many Americans warm during this cold winter.

**Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting a Budget Request for the Corporation for National and Community Service**  
*March 4, 2003*

*Mr. Speaker:*

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed request for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The request is needed to liquidate legitimate prior-year obligations for eligible participants in the AmeriCorps program, to complete the implementation of a comprehensive corrective action plan developed by CNCS to strengthen financial management, and to provide flexibility to support

more than 50,000 AmeriCorps members in FY 2003. This request will not increase my FY 2004 request.

The details of this request are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

**Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Telecommunications Payments to Cuba**  
*March 5, 2003*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6), I transmit herewith a semiannual report prepared by my Administration detailing payments

made to Cuba by United States persons as a result of the provision of telecommunications services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,  
March 5, 2003.

**Statement on Senate Action To Block a Vote on the Nomination of Miguel A. Estrada To Be a United States Court of Appeals Circuit Judge**  
*March 6, 2003*

Miguel Estrada is a well-qualified nominee to the U.S. Court of Appeals who has been waiting nearly 2 years for an up-or-

down vote in the United States Senate. The decision today by 44 Senators to continue